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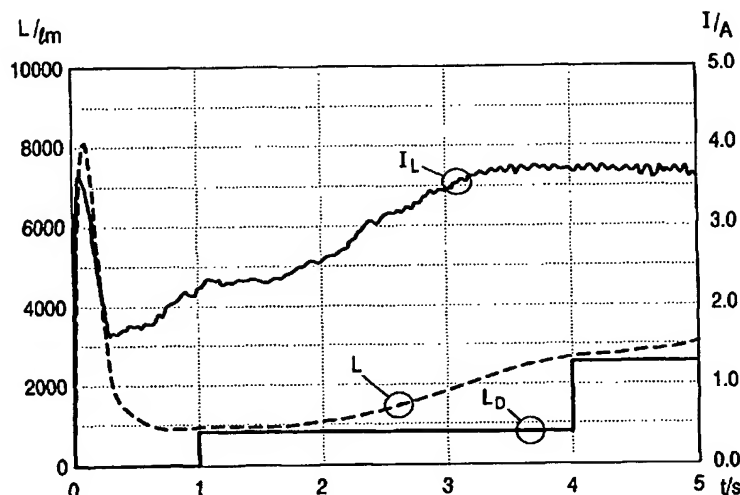
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(54) Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING A GAS DISCHARGE LAMP, AND LIGHTING SYSTEM WITH  
GAS DISCHARGE LAMP AND CONTROL DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A device and a method for the control of a gas discharge lamp are disclosed. In order to detract as little as possible from lamp life in spite of the luminous flux requirements to be fulfilled during the run-up of the lamp, the lamp is operated with an alternating current in a run-up phase which comprises at least the interval from 1 s to 3 s after lamp ignition, the amplitude of said current rising during the run-up phase. After the rise in the run-up phase, the current may first rise further or remain constant in a transitional phase which preferably follows the former phase, and is subsequently reduced until the lamp enters the stationary operational phase. The time gradient of the current is preferably chosen such here that minimum values for the luminous flux of the lamp are achieved at given moments. Particular advantages are obtained, for example, in the case of Hg-free lamps which are operated with high currents, especially during the run-up.



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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 742 132 A (HUBER ANDREAS ET AL) 21 April 1998 (1998-04-21)	1,3-10
A	figures 3,4	2,11
X	US 5 821 696 A (ARLT JOACHIM ET AL) 13 October 1998 (1998-10-13)	1,3-10
A	figure 1	2,11
X	US 6 046 551 A (KITA MASAhide) 4 April 2000 (2000-04-04)	1,3-10
A	column 7, line 35-38; figure 1	2,11
X	EP 0 508 526 A (PHILIPS NV) 14 October 1992 (1992-10-14)	1,3-10
A	column 8, line 23 - line 36; figure 2	2,11
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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	EP 0 785 702 A (POKORNY GERD) 14 November 2001 (2001-11-14) column 2, line 30 - line 37 -----	1-11
A	US 6 160 362 A (SHONE MICHAEL ET AL) 12 December 2000 (2000-12-12) figure 2C -----	1-11

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